

Introduced: 4/19/83
Referred: Transportation
and Resources

1 IN THE SENATE

BY V.FISCHER

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SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 19

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

Relating to a statewide system of

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trails.

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BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

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WHEREAS Alaska has many historical, recreational, and wilderness

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trails, waterways, and campsites; and

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WHEREAS it is in the best interest of the state to develop a statewide

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trails system to increase recreational opportunities for residents and

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visitors alike; and

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WHEREAS it is necessary that the state develop a method of protecting

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known trails from loss from public ownership; and

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WHEREAS it is in the best interest of the state to protect, provide

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for, and enhance the use and enjoyment of publicly owned land and resources

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by the public; and

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WHEREAS a statewide trails system would provide access to areas of

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historical, natural, or recreational interest; and

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WHEREAS it is in the best interest of the state to provide a method

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for the connection of state trails with other existing or potential units

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of a statewide system of trails, including trails located on federal or

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municipal land; and

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WHEREAS there is currently no comprehensive statewide plan for devel-

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oping a trails system or including trails nominated by local governments

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for inclusion in the state system; and

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WHEREAS tourism constitutes the third largest industry in the state

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and the development of recreational opportunities through a statewide

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system of trails is in the public interest; and

1 WHEREAS it is in the best interest of the state to encourage state
2 agencies to work cooperatively to reserve and develop trail heads to serve
3 a statewide system of trails; and

4 WHEREAS it is in the best interest of the state to design, designate
5 and develop trails, trailheads, and public access areas in conjunction with
6 the construction of transportation and other public works projects; and

7 WHEREAS it is in the best interest of the state to develop standards
8 and guidelines for inclusion of trails into a statewide system of trails;
9 and

10 WHEREAS information to members of the public about the use and loca-
11 tion of state trails is necessary to ensure safe and maximum public enjoy-
12 ment of publicly owned land and resources;

13 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the governor is
14 respectfully requested to direct appropriate state agencies to develop a
15 plan for a comprehensive statewide system of trails that will

16 (1) provide for standards, procedures, and management guidelines
17 for designating trails within a statewide trails system;

18 (2) provide access to areas of historical, natural, or recrea-
19 tional interests;

20 (3) protect and enhance the use and enjoyment of publicly owned
21 land and resources by the public;

22 (4) protect existing trails now in public ownership and access
23 from loss to the public;

24 (5) propose a state and local government capital improvement
25 plan which includes inter-agency coordination and cooperation in the
26 design, development and management of a statewide system of trails; and be
27 it

28 FURTHER RESOLVED that the governor is respectfully requested to pre-
29 pare and maintain a five-year development plan for the system and shall

- 1 include the plan in annual reports to the Second Session of the Thirteenth
- 2 Legislature and to subsequent legislatures.